

Message Text

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EXDIS, FOR NIMETZ PARTY ONLY

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (E.O. AND TAGS OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS-86

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, GR

SUBJECT: EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS WITH GREECE (U)

FOLLOWING REPEAT USDEL MC BRUSSELS 8177 SENT ACTION JCS WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE, SECDEF, ATHENS, ANKARA, USNMR SHAPE BE
AND USNATO SEP 07.

QUOTE: S E C R E T BRUSSELS BE 8177

EXDIS
SPECAT
CITE: 676/78

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR GEN JONES INFO GEN HAIG AND LTGEN
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W.Y. SMITH. RADM JOSEPHSON SENDS. DELIVER DURING DUTY HOURS

SUBJECT: EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS WITH GREECE (U)

REFERENCES: (A) IMSWM CGG-159-78 OF 11 JUL 78 (NOTAL),
(B) USDELMC 151110Z AUG 78, (C) JCS 292215Z AUG 78, (D)
SECSTATE CITE 225270, (E) UNDATED DRAFT MCM-CGG- -78

1. (S) FOLLOWING MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETING ON 7 SEPTEMBER, CHAIRMAN MILITARY COMMITTEE (GEN ZEINER GUNDERSEN) CONVENED PRIVATE RESTRICTED SESSION WHICH INCLUDED THE MILREPS FROM BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, GERMANY, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PORTUGAL, TURKEY, UK, AND THE US. MEETING ADDRESSED THE ONGOING MILITARY COMMITTEE HANDLING OF THE EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS CONDUCTED BY SACEUR WITH GREECE AND HIS ASSESSMENT THEREOF. DRAFT MILITARY COMMITTEE ASSESSMENT, PREPARED BY INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF, WAS PROVIDED BY REF A. REF B PROVIDED COMMENT ON REF A AND PROPOSED THAT RATHER THAN LENGTHY AND DETAILED COMMENT ON EACH OF THE 12 ISSUES UNDER DISCUSSION THE US PROPOSE A SHORTENED, MORE GENERAL AND CONCISE DOCUMENT WHICH MIGHT ELIMINATE A CONTENTIOUS DISCUSSION ON ISSUES WHICH CANNOT BE SOLVED BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE BECAUSE OF THEIR POLITICAL NATURE. REF C PROVIDED JCS CONCURRENCE. THIS POSITION WAS SUBMITTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF FOR CONSIDERATION ON 31 AUGUST. REF D SET FORTH US VIEWS TO BE EXPRESSED AT 7 SEPTEMBER MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETING ON REF A. REF E IS AN INFORMAL DRAFT DOCUMENT CIRCULATED PRIVATELY BY THE CMC TO THE MILREPS PRESENT AT THE SUBJECT MEETING. THIS IS TO SERVE AS A POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THIS ISSUE AS OUTLINED BELOW.

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2. (S) IN OPENING THE PRIVATE SESSION, CMC STATED THAT RESPONSES TO REF A HAD NOW BEEN RECEIVED FROM ALL MILREPS AND THEY VARIED FROM THE SUBMISSION BY THE US OF A SHORTENED, MORE GENERAL CONCISE DOCUMENT TO RATHER EXTENSIVE COMMENTS FROM THE TURKISH MILREP REQUESTING SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE IN THE LANGUAGE OF REF A. HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT HE WAS PLEASED THAT ALL, INCLUDING TURKEY, MADE A POSITIVE COMMITMENT FOR GREECE'S RETURN TO THE INTEGRATED MILITARY FORCES. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT REGARDLESS OF THE LENGTH OF THE MC DOCUMENT WHICH EVOLVES, HE FELT IT ESSENTIAL THAT MC VIEWPOINT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO HIM ON THE CONTENTIOUS ISSUES IN ORDER THAT HE MIGHT ACCURATELY REFLECT THE MC VIEW WHEN HE TAKES PART IN SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS IN THE OEG AND DPC. HE SUGGESTED, THEREFORE, THAT REF A BE MODIFIED TO INCORPORATE TURKEY'S COMMENTS, INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE, PROVIDED THE COMMENTS WERE NON-PROVOCATIVE. FYI: THERE WAS NO CLARIFICATION OF "PROVOCATIVE" BUT BELIEVE THIS REFERS TO AREAS WHEREIN THERE WILL BE GENERAL MILITARY OPPOSITION TO EXPRESSED TURKISH POSITION; I.E., TURKISH REFERENCE TO BOUNDARY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE AEGEAN BEING "NULL AND VOID" BECAUSE OF THEIR 1974 WITHDRAWAL FROM THE INTEGRATED FORCES. THIS POINT HAS BEEN EXPRESSED IN

THOSE WORDS BY GENERAL YUKSEL EARLIER AND IN THE CONTEXT THAT GREECE'S WITHDRAWAL DISSOLVED THE PARTNERSHIP. BELIEVE MOST MILREPS VIEW THE SITUATION IN TERMS OF A CLUB VICE A PARTNERSHIP AND THUS THE BOUNDARY ISSUES APPLY TO ALL.

3. (S) THIS GENERAL THRUST WAS SUPPORTED AT SOME LENGTH BY UK MILREP (ACM STEEDMAN) WHO ADVANCED FOLLOWING THOUGHTS:

- GREEK REINTEGRATION SHOULD OCCUR BEFORE RESOLUTION OF ALL OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

- COMPLIMENTED GREAT PROGRESS MADE BY SACEUR IN HIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE.

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- RECOGNIZED INEVITABILITY OF DISAGREEMENT IN CERTAIN AREAS.

- PROPOSED SEPARATION OF POLITICAL AND MILITARY CONSIDERATIONS ON THE CONTENTIOUS ISSUES, I.E., MILITARY BOUNDARIES AND ATTENDANT COMMAND AND CONTROL.

- UK AUTHORITIES WERE ATTRACTED TO SHORTER VERSION AS PROPOSED BY US, BUT ARE PREPARED TO MOVE FORWARD FROM THE LONG VERSION TOWARD A SHORTER VERSION AS AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED ON THE ISSUES.

- EXPRESSED HOPE THAT MC ACTION COULD BE CONCLUDED IN THE NEXT SIX WEEKS.

4. (S) TURKISH MILREP (GEN YUKSEL) EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THOUGHTS GIVEN BY CMC AND MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- TURKEY SUPPORTS BOTH THE STRUCTURE AND THE LENGTH OF REF A.

- COULD ACCEPT SHORTENED VERSION OF REF A PROVIDED THE EVENTUAL PAPER IS SUFFICIENTLY COMPREHENSIVE TO MEET THE PURPOSE OF ASSESSMENT AND TREATS WITH ALL THE RELEVANT ISSUES.

- HE DOES NOT EXPECT THE MC TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO ALL THE ISSUES AT HAND, BUT INSISTED THAT THE ISSUES MUST BE ADDRESSED IN DETAIL IN THE MC BEFORE BEING FORWARDED FOR DISCUSSION IN THE OEG AND DPC.

- EXPRESSED VIEW THAT CERTAIN ISSUES, SUCH AS THE COMMAND BOUNDARIES, ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE TO TURKEY AS STATED AT PRESENT IN SACEUR'S RESULTS OF EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS WITH GREECE. HE DID NOT ENUMERATE OTHER ISSUES BUT STATED

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THERE WERE OTHERS.

- STATED THAT THESE CONTENTIOUS ISSUES MUST BE RESOLVED PRIOR TO GREEK REENTRY.

- APPRECIATED DESIRE FOR RAPID RESOLUTION AND QUICK REENTRY OF GREECE INTO NATO FORCES, HOWEVER, SAID HE THOUGHT IT MORE IMPORTANT TO REACH ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS RATHER THAN QUICK ONES. IMPLICATION WAS CLEAR THAT TURKEY WILL AWAIT ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS BEFORE ACCEPTING GREEK REENTRY.

5. (S) ALL NATIONS EXPRESSED ACCEPTANCE OF CHAIRMAN'S PROPOSAL TO REWORK EXISTING PAPER IN AN EFFORT TO NARROW DISAGREEMENT AND REACH MC CONSENSUS. THE US MILREP (JOSEPHSON) DRAWING ON COMMENTS IN REF D FOR USDELMC EXPRESSED AGREEMENT AND CONCURRED WITH CMC PROPOSAL FOR DRAFTING NEW IMSWM.

6. (S) IN SUMMARY, CHAIRMAN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR CONCURRENCE OF ALL CONCERNED AND THEN DISTRIBUTED REF E. THIS IS NON-PAPER WHICH ISIMS EFFORT TO MODIFY REF A IN LIGHT OF COMMENTS FROM TURKEY AND OTHERS. CMC REQUESTED ANOTHER PRIVATE MEETING OF THE SAME MILREPS AT 0900 ON 18 SEPTEMBER TO DISCUSS THIS REVISED VERSION INFORMALLY. IN THE MEANTIME, COMMENTS ARE WELCOMED FOR CIRCULATION. IT IS HOPED THAT THE 18 SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL PRODUCE A REVISED VERSION AGREEABLE TO BE PUBLISHED AND CIRCULATED TO CAPITALS AS A REVISED IMSWM. REF E DACOMED TO JCS THIS DATE AND WILL BE CABLED TO INFO ADDEES. WOULD APPRECIATE JCS COMMENTS BY COB 14 SEPTEMBER. GDS-86 UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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